

long-term chronically ill from the Federal Government to the States.

Ohio's Medicaid budget is \$5.1 billion in 1995. Nursing home benefits account for \$1.9 billion of that budget or 37 percent. The State estimates that Medicaid spending will increase at 8–9 percent a year. If the State has to absorb that increase, it will jeopardize OhioCare. OhioCare is a health care reform plan which would put all current low-income recipients on Medicaid into managed care plans and use the savings to expand Medicaid coverage to working poor families, thereby reducing overall health care costs. In Ohio we are trying to get health care costs under control. The Republican budget does nothing about them, and it may very well sabotage Ohio's efforts.

Who benefits from the \$353 billion in tax breaks assumed in this budget? Fifty-one percent of these breaks go to people who earn over \$100,000 annually. The most wealthy 1 percent of Americans will get a tax cut of more than \$20,000. The poorest 20 percent of Americans will get an average tax cut of \$36. Let's look at some of these.

Eliminating the alternative minimum tax by 1999 will cost \$16.9 billion—for the first 5 years. The alternative minimum tax requires profitable corporations including many foreign corporations operating in the United States to pay a minimum amount of corporate income tax even if under normal tax rules they can write off all their profits.

Before the 1986 tax reform, highly profitable corporations were able to eliminate their tax liability through various tax loopholes. A 1986 survey found that 130 of America's largest and most profitable corporations managed to pay absolutely nothing in Federal income taxes at least 1 year between 1981 and 1985. Forty-two of these companies paid no taxes at all for all those years. Congress, in 1986, decided that made no sense and established the alternative minimum tax so that profitable corporations doing business in the United States had to pay something, if only a minimal amount, in taxes to our country.

The Republican plan includes a \$500 tax credit for children for families with incomes as high as \$250,000. A responsible proposal to limit this credit to families making under \$95,000 was rejected earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, over \$300 billion in tax breaks in the face of huge budget deficits Americans must pay are irresponsible. Tax breaks that overwhelmingly favor the richest corporations and individuals are wrong. I cannot support them.

We must get on track to a balanced budget first before we consider tax cuts.

The Republican budget changes the cost of living calculation for Social Security benefits, in effect lowering the cost of living by 0.6 percent. This will reduce the average Social Security benefit by an estimated \$240 a month by 2002. Their budget commits us to tax cuts for the wealthy while cutting essential income for seniors. I can't countenance that.

The Republican budget would make student loan recipients pay interest on their loan while attending school. This will increase the average student's indebtedness by \$3,400. Over the life of the loan the student would pay an extra \$41 a month, \$5,000 in all. The cut would amount to \$18.7 billion over 7 years. How can anyone justify making it more difficult to get a higher education in our country as we enter a new century which will be characterized by increased international economic competition? I ask you, are the Japanese or the Germans making it harder for their children to get the education they need?

Mr. Speaker, I cannot support this Republican budget proposal. It's anti-family at its core. It is ironic that some Members of Congress, who earn over \$130,000 a year, may think that a budget which gives a \$20,000 tax break to the richest 1 percent of Americans and pays for it by reducing health benefits for our grandmother is good for the country. I don't and I won't vote for it.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOHN L.
CRAWFORD

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 19, 1995, a group of dedicated public

school educators gathered in my congressional district to pay tribute to one of their distinguished colleagues, John L. Crawford.

Mr. Crawford has been the principal of Intermediate School 183 since it opened its doors in the South Bronx in 1974 and has earned the distinction of being the longest serving intermediate school principal in Community School District Seven. He has been a dedicated and innovative school leader, bringing many new programs to his school and the district at large. Mr. Crawford developed the first magnet school program in the district, the Paul Robeson Magnet School for Medical Careers and Health Professions, and implemented a comprehensive after-school program which then served as a model for New York City youth board school based programs throughout the city. Because of his leadership and in recognition of his contributions, Mr. Crawford was asked by the chancellor to serve on two special advisory committees: the City-Wide Mainstreaming Committee on Special Education and the Committee on Articulation.

Mr. Crawford's contributions to the community beyond his school are equally impressive. He currently serves as the Council of Supervisors and Administrators Community School District Seven chairman and in 1991, he served as the assistant to the superintendent supervising district activities and programs. He is the deserving recipient of numerous awards and recognitions.

I am proud to count Mr. Crawford among my friends. On behalf of the residents of my district—in particular the many students and school professionals whose lives he has so significantly touched—I thank Mr. Crawford for his years of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in conveying our best wishes and deep gratitude to the principal of I.S. 183, Mr. John L. Crawford.